

Primula munroi 的产自东喜马拉雅的一个新亚种

——*P. munroi* ssp. *schizocalyx*

A new subspecies of *Primula munroi* Lindl. from the Eastern Himalaya——*P. munroi* ssp. *schizocalyx*

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Key words *Primula* Linn.; *P. munroi* ssp. *schizocalyx*; New subspecies

In the course of revising the genus *Primula* Linn. (Primulaceae) in the Himalayas of Indian region, the authors came across a set of collections identified as *P. involucrata* Wall. gathered by the pioneer Himalayan travellers, merely written on determinavit slips as *P. involucrata* Wall. forma *schizocalyx* by I. B. Balfour without any date. Critical studies revealed that these specimens are quite distinct from the species proper so far described. The new taxon is described as a subspecies and illustrated. As *P. involucrata* Wall. ex Duby (1844) is a later homonym of *P. involucrata* Sweet (1839) and illegitimate, and its correct name is *P. munroi* Lindl. (1847), we name our new subspecies as *P. munroi* ssp. *schizocalyx* Balf. f. ex Basak et Maiti.

***P. munroi* Lindl. ssp. *schizocalyx* Balf. f. ex Basak et Maiti, subsp. nov. Figs. 1 & 2**

Differt a ssp. *munroi* habitu gracili, calyce tubulari-urceolato, fissuris 4~6 mm profundis, sepalorum lobis lineari-lanceolatis usque laciniatis, laxe filamentosis, calycis tubo brevi, 1~2 mm longo, corollae limbis plus patentibus.

Slender, perennial, efarinose, rootstock inconspicuous. Leaves all basal in loose tuft, blades 5~13 mm (~18 mm) × 5~6 mm (~11 mm), petioles 1~3 cm (~8.5 cm) × 1 mm (~2 mm), with abruptly truncate sheathing base. Scape 8~12 cm (~20 cm) long, with 2 or 3 flowers. Flowers heteromorphic, thickly annulate, ca. 1.8~2 cm × 1.5~2 cm, white (Gammie, 586), bracteate and pedicellate; bracts 8~10 mm × 2 mm, extended downward up to 3 mm × 2 mm, distinctly nerved; pedicels 5~12 mm long, efarinose. Calyx cupular to tubular-urceolate, 5~7 mm × 5~6 mm; tube 1~2 mm long; sepal lobes linear-lanceolate to lacinate loosely filamentous (not broadly triangular), 4~6 mm × 1~1.5 mm, acuminate or blunt, trilobed at apex. Corolla hypocrateriform to infundibuliform, or saucer-shaped, distinctly annulate at mouth within, 1.8~2 cm × 1.5~2 cm with yellow eye; tube relatively more sharply dilated into limbs; limbs more or less patent, 4~6 mm long. Pollens ca. 20 (E) μm × 12 (P) μm, elliptic in equatorial view, rounded-triangular in polar view, 3-syncolpate, pitted. Capsules ca. 4 mm × 2 mm, oblong-elongate; wall thin, dehiscent by 5 valvular teeth; seeds minute (ca. 0.5 mm × 0.3 mm), variously angled, reticulate surface with honey-comb like polygonal shallow cavities, light brown. Fl. & Fr. late Jul.-Aug.

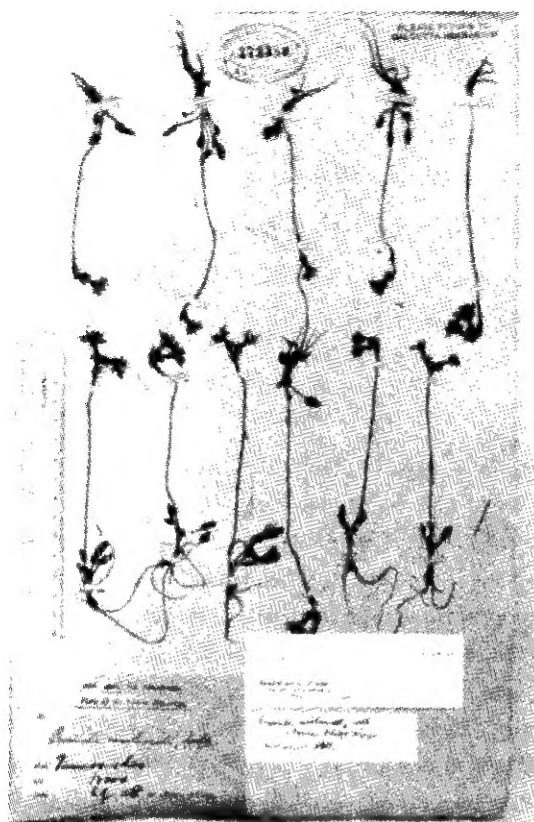


Fig. 1 Holotype specimen of *P. munroi* ssp. *schizocalyx* (Dr. King's collector s. n. Acc. no. 272380-CAL).

The Sikkim Himalaya, Tamoochoo, ca. 3952 m (13000 ft), 1888-07, Dr. King's collector s. n., Acc. no. 272380 (holotype, here designated, CAL); the same locality, ca. 3952 m (13000 ft), 1888-07, Dr. King's collector s. n., Acc. no. 272376, 272379 (CAL); the Sikkim Himalaya (without any precise locality), 1888, Dr. King's collector s. n., Acc. no. 272375, 272377 (fr.) (CAL); the Sikkim Himalaya, Tankra (Tankarla) mountain, ca. 4560 m (15000 ft) 1892-08-04, G. A. Gammie 586 (CAL); the Sikkim Himalaya, Teesta vally, above Thangu, ca. 4256 m (14000 ft), 1903-07-12, Major F. E. Younghusband s. n., Acc. no. 272382 (CAL); Sikkim, Llonak 4000 ~ 4300 m (13700 ~ 14500 ft), 1909-07-30, Smith & Cave 2079 $\frac{1}{2}$ + 1 duplicate) (CAL).

Habitat & Distribution Plants generally grow in dense tuft on the swampy bank near the streams in alpine situation, only known from extreme north Sikkim Himalaya bordering to China.

This new subspecies differs from ssp. *munroi* in slender habit, tubular-urceolate calyx, calyx cleft 4 ~ 6 mm in depth, lobes linear-lanceolate to laciniate, loose filamentous, calyx tube short, 1 ~ 2 mm long, corolla limbs more spreading. It is only documented from a narrow, isolated region in the north district of Sikkim along the China border, while the *P. munroi* proper is distributed widely from northwestern Pakistan to western Yunnan, southwestern Sichuan of China and the extreme north of Myanmar through western, central and eastern Himalayas.

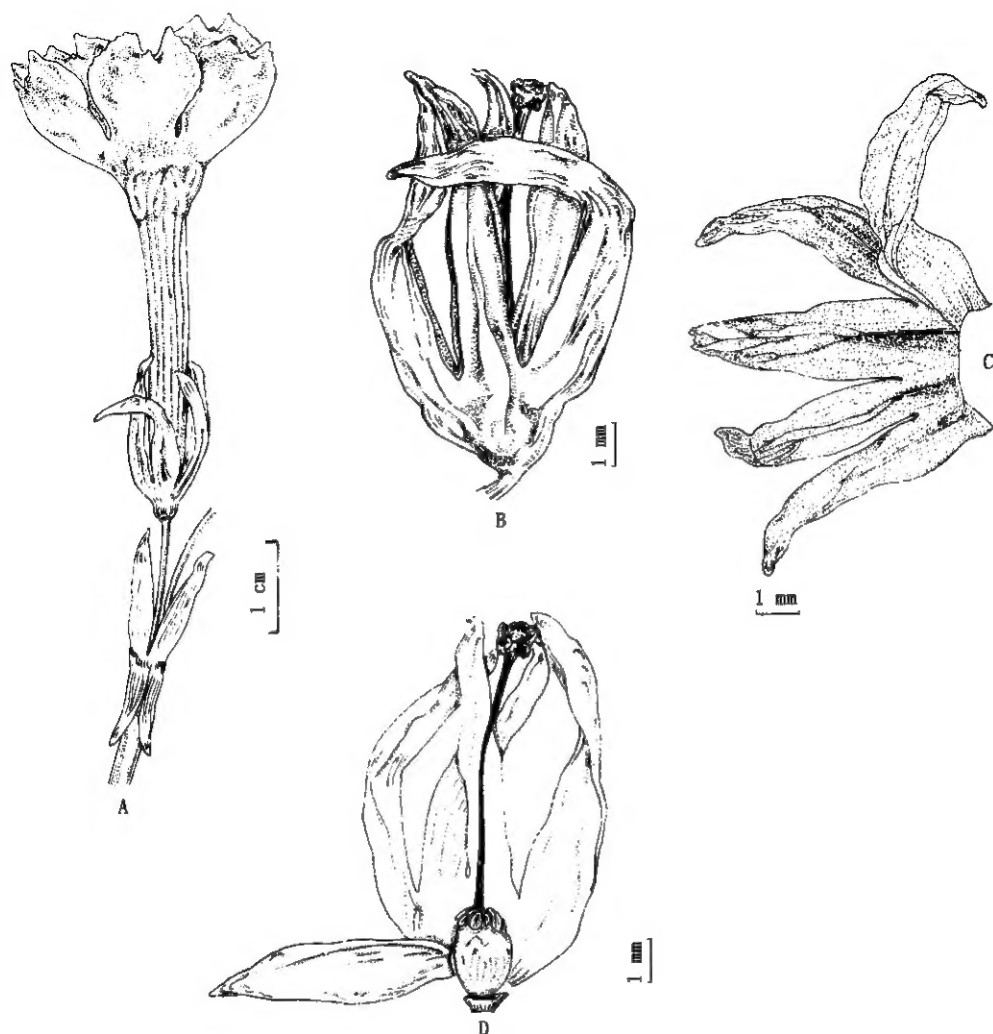


Fig. 2 *P. munroi* ssp. *schizocalyx* A. Flower with floral bract; B. Calyx; C. Calyx splitted open; D. Carpel with calyx.

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